

4/15/02
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Jean-Marie Blanchar

Serial No.: To be assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: ASSEMBLY SYSTEM BASED ON A
BALL ANCHORING DEVICE

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: Art Unit: To be assigned
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: Examiner: To be assigned
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: Atty Docket: 21065/0160
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-captioned case as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claim 11 as follows:

A1 11. (Amended) Process for producing an assembly system in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that an attaching device in accordance with one of claims 7 to 10 is offered up opposite the holes (7, 8) in the surfaces of the parts (5, 2) to be assembled, with the piston (20) in the released position and the snap ring (17) covering the balls; an axial thrust force (F) is applied to the protruding end (28) of the piston so as to insert the body (10) of the device into the holes until the balls (16) are situated partly below the unobstructed surface (82) of the surface (9) of the second part, with snap ring (17) being retained by one of the surfaces, the thrust force is maintained to compress the spring